

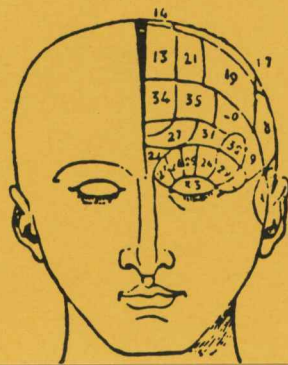
The 1978

Annual Report

The Oskar Diethelm

Historical

Library



FRIENDS
of the
OSKAR DIETHELM HISTORICAL LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORT

1978

Department of Psychiatry
New York Hospital-
Cornell University Medical College
525 East 68th Street
New York, New York 10021

In 1978, we celebrated an anniversary. Shorter and, of course, not comparable to the country's bi-centennial, it nevertheless represented a landmark in the history of the development of our psychiatric collections--the fifteenth anniversary of the founding of the Friends of the Oskar Diethelm Historical Library.

Since 1964, the Friends have played an essential role in furthering our historical collections, which illustrate the development of the field of psychiatry with its many and broad ramifications. Readers of our previous Annual Reports know our history. In a sense, we have two origins--an indirect one and one that is more specific. Indirectly, we began when the Board of Trustees of the New York Hospital authorized the formation of a second hospital library to be located in the Bloomingdale Asylum, which opened shortly before the approval date of August 1823. This was probably the first authorized formal psychiatric library in the United States. Dr. Oskar Diethelm, who became Professor of Psychiatry and Chairman of the Department in 1936, was directly responsible for the founding of the Historical Library proper. His collection grew to the point that a separate library was established in 1953, which was named in his honor when he retired in 1962. Since that date, Dr. Diethelm has been an active member of our Section on the History of Psychiatry and the Behavioral Sciences. He has continued to publish on various historical research topics and has played an integral role in selecting books to add to the library, particularly those published during the period before 1750.

Before we begin to discuss the 1978 achievements, it would be worthwhile to take a brief look at some of the major events that have occurred during the

last fifteen years. We initially solicited members only from the department, but gradually we added Friends from a variety of backgrounds and interests. We do not have the staff nor the funds for a large fund raising effort and we utilize our proceeds almost totally for acquisitions; consequently, the satisfaction of knowing that they are participating in a meritorious endeavor and the receipt of a copy of our Annual Report are the only rewards we can offer our Friends.

One of the first significant events was the formal amalgamation of the Payne Whitney Psychiatric Clinic and the Westchester Division (the old Bloomingdale's) into a unified department under Dr. William T. Lhamon, the Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry at the time. I wish to take this opportunity to express our appreciation for the continuous support that we have received over the years from Dr. Lhamon and from Dr. Robert Michels, our current Chairman. The official union of these two segments of the Department of Psychiatry made it possible to establish a policy of incorporating all the older remaining books from the Bloomingdale Library into the Historical Library, which gave a tremendous boost to our collections. There was one major gap, however. Bloomingdale undoubtedly received on exchange many Annual Reports of hospitals throughout the world during its 150 years of existence, but it is apparent that many of these reports did not survive. We suspect that when the Asylum moved in 1894 from the area that is now the Columbia University campus to White Plains, a great number of these reports were thought not worthy of saving and were discarded. We have had to make a concerted effort, therefore, to obtain these missing reports over the years and we are happy to say that we have been quite successful in doing so.

The next major change came with the development of special funding by individuals, companies, and foundations. It was initiated in 1967 with a gift from Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Blatt to establish a fund to be used for the collecting of manuscripts and graphics illustrating the history of psychiatry. The following year, through the efforts of Charles Blatt and John Loeb, the Loeb, Rhoades and Company gave us a considerable gift which was actively used for general purchases. Also, in 1968, Francis S. Cartmell presented us with a fund to be used for similar purposes. We received our first foundation grant in 1969 from the American Foundation for Mental Hygiene. This Foundation gave us monies for the purpose of purchasing materials illustrating the public health aspects of psychiatry. In addition, they have been most helpful by supplying funds for cataloging the Clifford Beers' papers. In 1973, we received a two-year developmental grant from the Josiah Macy, Jr. Foundation, which provided salary support for teaching medical students and residents and made possible two series of public lectures. The primary series was named after Cornell's first Professor of Psychiatry, Allan McLane Hamilton, and was devoted to the mind-body problem. The second series honored our second Professor of Psychiatry, Adolf Meyer, and was a study of the development of American psychoanalysis. The latter series has appeared in American Psychoanalysis: Origins and Development (New York, Brunner/Mazel, 1978, edited by Jacques M. Quen and Eric T. Carlson). The Macy Foundation's major contribution to the Library provided for a full-time librarian whose duties included combining and cataloging the materials from the Westchester Division and the reduction of our backlog of partially uncataloged books. A total of 1895 items were processed into the library during the period of the Macy support.

In 1973, we received an initial grant from The Siegfried and Josephine Bieber Foundation. We have been most fortunate in receiving yearly renewals from this foundation. Most of the money we have received has been used for the acquisition of rare printed materials which have been described in detail previously. The following year, we received two endowment funds. The first, from The Margaret S. Millhauser estate, was given to us with the understanding that it would be used to purchase materials that would illustrate the various ramifications of two states at opposite poles of a spectrum--the manic state and the melancholic or depressed state. The second bequest was from Francis S. Cartmell who left us an unrestricted sum. Part of the income from her fund has been used for the purchase of rare books and for acquisitions essential in supporting research activities; most of these items go into the reference library. Space does not allow us to list the names of all the people who have made donations to the historical collections over the years, but they have been acknowledged in our previous Annual Reports.

Acquisitions-1978

The Friends, in their traditional manner, gave the basic support which made the growth of our historical collections possible in 1978. We have selected only a few examples to mention.

It is important to realize that psychiatry, as a field, is subject to recurrent efforts at reform directed towards one aspect or another. One such effort was made by the National Association for

the Protection of the Insane and the Prevention of Insanity (NAPIPI), which was founded in Cleveland on July 1, 1880. It was a product of many movements that were coming to fruition in the preceding decade and which were associated with the founding of national organizations which included The National Conference of Social Work, 1874, and The American Neurological Association, 1876, as well as various charity organizations, such as The New York State Charities Aid Association founded in 1872. Its first four officers included a psychiatrist, a physician who was a social reformer, a social worker, and a neurologist. This year the Friends purchased the NAPIPI's Journal. (There were only seven issues of the American Psychological Journal published during 1883-1884.) The Journal was edited by Joseph Parrish, M.D., a founder of the American Association for the Care of Inebriates, and the editorial board included Charles L. Dana, the New York neurologist, and Alice Bennett, who was one of the earliest woman psychiatrists in the country. The beginning article in the first issue was entitled "The Rights of the Insane," while a later article was entitled "Our Insane Neighbor: His Rights and Ours." The Journal was devoted to the minutes of the organization, the prevention of intemperance, investigations of state hospitals, the functions of the medical staff, the progress of the non-restraint movement, lunacy legislation, the introduction of psychiatric teaching into medical schools, etc.

The NAPIPI started with broad support and considerable enthusiasm, but its ascendancy was brief. Certainly, many of the hospital superintendents opposed the proposals of the group and were livid at the thought of centralized state lunatic boards. In addition, the wide and diverse professional

background interests of the founders and the death in 1883 of two of its prime movers probably contributed to its demise shortly thereafter. Moreover, there was internal dissension over whether the organization should emphasize reform or be strictly scientifically oriented. Some of its enthusiastic reform efforts now seem highly unrealistic; for example, the proposed New York State law that no alleged insane person could be hospitalized until found insane by a jury of twelve peers. We are most pleased to add these scarce issues to our collection.

The support of the Siegfried and Josephine Bieber Foundation allows us to expand in many ways and we have selected three examples to cite. In our section on statistics, four volumes of journals for 1978 are reported. Two have been discussed above. The third was purchased with the assistance of the Bieber Foundation and is volume five of the German psycho-analytic journal, Imago. It contains three articles by Sigmund Freud. Even more important to us is the fact that the acquisition of this volume completes our set of Imago, which appeared in twenty-three volumes from 1912 to 1937.

A very different acquisition made possible by the Bieber Foundation was John Gregory's Observations on the Duties and Offices of a Physician; and on the Method of Prosecuting Enquiries on Philosophy, which was published in London in 1770. Gregory, after training in medicine in Edinburgh and Leyden, returned to Aberdeen to practice medicine and to lecture on moral and natural philosophy, a post befitting the cousin of Thomas Reid, who was fast becoming the leading Scottish mental philosopher. Gregory spent

some time in London before becoming a professor of the practice of physic at Edinburgh in 1766. Two years later, Benjamin Rush became his student. Rush appreciated Gregory, but was more highly impressed by William Cullen. Gregory's work is considered important because it is an early contribution to medical ethics and contains material on a subject of great interest to psychiatry, the doctor-patient relationship. It is Gregory's view that a doctor must first of all have "humanity," but he recognized that there may be a problem if a physician is too sensitive. An arrogant doctor, on the other hand, may be a greater risk since he may be hiding his ignorance; but even a gentle and sympathetic neophyte who begins a practice humbly among the poor can become, with increasing success, haughty and careless. Gregory's book was superceded by Thomas Percival's Medical Ethics of 1803 (the library has only a modern reprint of this volume). Rush showed Gregory's influence in his 1789 essay entitled "Observations on the Duties of a Physician" which he extended in 1808 with his "On the Duties of Patients to their Physicians." All three writers had an important influence on the earliest codes of medical ethics in the United States, the code of the New York State Medical Society in 1823, and the Baltimore code in 1832. The American Medical Association regulations were not issued until 1847.

The third item is a small ninety-page pamphlet by Pietro Pisani entitled Istruzioni per la Novella Real Casa dei Matti in Palermo (Palermo, 1827). We located this scarce item through the help of George Mora, who previously had written a study of Pisani. Baron Pisani capped years of philanthropic labor by opening a mental hospital in Palermo in 1824, a labor reminiscent of William Tuke's efforts at the same age in life. Pisani's Istruzioni presents an overview of the coordinated and supportive program provided

to the patient. In order to introduce the patient into the therapeutic program, Pisani also issued a small guide for the arriving patient, which explained the philosophy of the treatment he was about to receive.

Among the books purchased with the aid of the Millhauser Fund are two of considerably different character. The first is a small pamphlet by William Alexander Francis Browne, a physician who was born in Scotland and who ultimately became one of the leading psychiatrists in nineteenth century Great Britain. After attending medical school in Edinburgh, Browne spent a year in psychiatric training with Esquirol at the Charenton Hospital in Paris. He returned home shortly thereafter to become superintendent of Montrose Lunatic Asylum. While there, he contributed his studies on language to the local phrenological journal, and, in 1835, published a small pamphlet Observations on Religious Fanaticism. Its subtitle, "Illustrated by a comparison of the belief and conduct of noted religious enthusiasts with those of patients in the Montrose Lunatic Asylum," tells us more about its contents. In an attempt to delineate the differences between enthusiasts and maniacs, Browne presents the histories of two local patients. (Browne measured their skulls and discussed their characteristics using phrenological terms.) His studies on excitement were part of a growing attention to the features of psychopathology in the nineteenth century. Another student of Esquirol, Jean Pierre Falret, was to make a major contribution to the relationship of excited overactive states to the withdrawn and diminished activity of depressed persons. Falret graduated from the Paris Medical School in 1819. Three years later his studies had progressed to the point where he was able to publish an extensive volume on hypochondriasis, a term which then subsumed many depressive disorders.

This year we obtained the nineteenth volume of the Bulletin de l'Académie Impériale de Médecine for 1853-1854, which contains Falret's "Mémoire sur la folie circulaire, forme de maladie mentale caractérisée par la reproduction successive et régulière de l'état maniaque, de l'état mélancolique, et d'un intervalle lucide plus ou moins prolongé." This article is usually given credit as being the first to describe the concept of what we know today as manic-depressive disorders. It is a major step in the classification of the concept, but it is probably not the first clinical description. Jules Barllaiger, who discusses Falret's paper, had presented cases of "la folie à double forme" a few years earlier; even earlier periodic insanity as a diagnostic category presented us with a rubric that included recognizable cases. Perhaps the earliest known clinical description is by Aretaeus of Cappadocia at the end of the first century A.D. It is always dangerous, however, to claim anything as having been first described in history particularly if it relates to the history of natural phenomena.

Statistics are usually dull matters--but they have their place. In our case they give a quick overview of the growth of the historical library. The Friends, and other friends mentioned above, made possible in 1978 the addition of 159 items to the collection (149 monographs; 7 annual reports; 3 journals). Over the past fifteen years a total of 5133 items were added to the library, which is even more impressive. The breakdown is as follows: 3944 monographs; 220 doctoral dissertations; 89 journals; and 850 annual reports of hospitals. The Friends can take great satisfaction in making this dynamic growth possible.

Archives of Psychiatry

The Friends have contributed to the steady growth of the collection of printed material and their existence also helped to develop new areas of collecting--manuscript materials from individuals and the archives of various organizations. When the Friends were founded, the plans for the Archives of Psychiatry had not yet been formulated. We had some early indications of the future in 1964, when two sets of student lecture notes based on the lectures of Benjamin Rush were presented to the collections and again in the following year when the Friends' funds made possible the purchase of a letter by the eminent mid-nineteenth century British psychiatrist, John Conolly. We took a large step forward late in 1966, when Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Blatt donated a sum of money to be used for the purchase of manuscripts and graphics illustrating the history of psychiatry and in so doing became the first Life Friends. The purchases made possible by this gift have been reported over the years. In celebration of the Blatt donation, a private collection of over 120 items was given by two Friends in 1967-1968.

Also in 1967, we saw the beginnings of our collection of papers dealing with the broader aspects of mental health when Miss Emily L. Martin began a custom which continues to date of presenting mental hygiene materials that she and her sister Mildred M. Carrigan have collected over the years. In 1968, thanks to the help of William T. Beaty, we received the World Federation of Mental Hygiene-U.S. Committee papers and then later, through the American Foundation For Mental Hygiene, Inc., the Clifford Beers' papers. Through these organizations and Miss Martin, we have

extensive papers relating to Beers, Thomas Salmon, Frankwood Williams, and other leaders in the mental hygiene movement. The collection was rounded out when the National Association for Mental Health deposited their papers in turn. In 1969, the following year, we were pleased to receive the papers of Dr. Harold G. Wolff, the Professor of Neurology at Cornell University Medical College who was internationally known for his researches on psychosomatic medicine. It was not until 1975, that the Archives of Psychiatry was formally announced. In order to economize space a brief summary of the organizations which have deposited their papers with us is illustrated by the following list. Individuals who have given us their personal papers in the past have been reported in previous Annual Reports.

American Academy of Law and Psychiatry
American Academy of Psychoanalysis (History
American Foundation for Mental Hygiene Committee)
American Psychopathological Association
Ittleson Foundation
Lifwynn Foundation (Collected works)
National Association for Mental Health
New York County District Branch of the
American Psychiatric Association
New York Psychiatric Society
New York Society for Clinical Psychiatry
Vidonian Society
World Federations for Mental Health:
U. S. Committee

A very large gift received by the Archives of Psychiatry this year was the papers of David M. Levy. This substantial collection is now being processed and when available should be of great interest to researchers. Dr. Levy, who died in March 1977 at the age of eighty-four, was a true pioneer in child psychiatry. His research and ideas have had a far-reaching influence in the profession. During the course of his career, he published five books and numerous journal articles; he was chief of staff of the Institute of Child Guidance in New York, a president of the American Psychoanalytic Association, professor of psychiatry at Columbia University, and a founder of the Columbia University Psychoanalytic Clinic for Training and Research, and of the American Orthopsychiatric Association. After visiting Switzerland in 1926, and working with Emil Oberholzer, Dr. Levy became the first to introduce the Rorschach test into the United States. In his work with children he was an originator of play therapy, and developed the concepts of sibling rivalry, maternal overprotection and maternal deprivation, and their effects on the developing child. He also did considerable research into animal psychology, the sucking reflex in dogs (and children) and pecking behavior in chickens. In a much more broadly conceived project immediately after World War II, he studied the characteristics of German anti-Nazis.

This past year, we were made the official repository for the papers of one of the younger organizations in psychiatry, that of the prestigious American College of Psychiatrists. Founded at St. Louis in May 1963, by Henry P. Laughlin and thirty-three others, the early goals were stated as follows: "The aims of the College shall be scientific, educational, and professional in the service of psychiatry for the

public good." In addition, the College strove to honor excellence, to promote high standards in all psychiatric endeavors and to increase public understanding of the field. Since its founding, it has completed its membership which was limited to 500 psychiatrists.

At its first few meetings, panels were held on such topics as the future of psychiatry and community psychiatry. Since 1968, the ACP has devoted itself increasingly to the issues of continuing education at its annual meetings. As a product of these carefully planned programs, an annual book has been published on the topic of the meeting starting with the 1969 Psychoanalysis in Present Day Psychiatry. The Board of Regents under the presidency of Gene Usdin voted to deposit the materials that had been gathered by the College's Archivist-Historian, Curtis G. Southard. We look forward to a growing and continuing relationship with the College.

In conjunction with this action, Dr. Laughlin also presented us with the manuscript of a comprehensive study entitled The Academy Movement: the History of the Origins and Founding of the American Academy of Psychoanalysis. This naturally is an important addition to the Academy papers we already have and also the unpublished writings by the late John A. P. Millet on the subject.

Another foundation joined our Archives last year when the van Ameringen Foundation presented their papers through the courtesy of Mrs. Philip Kind, their president, and of their Directors. Mr. Arnold Louis van Ameringen established this foundation in New York in 1950 and left it an endowment on his death in 1966.

The Foundation's support has gone "to stimulate prevention, education, and direct care in the mental health field." As a consequence, their archives are a strong addition to our collections. They have supported a variety of projects aiding children, as well as the coordination of mental health activities in the greater New York area, the Institutes of Religion and Health, Fountain House, the exploration of possible provision of aftercare for mental patients, etc. In addition, they have supported a series of programs which help to fulfill a wide range of social needs.

In 1978, the William Alanson White Psychiatric Society voted to deposit their archives with us and we look forward towards receiving this material. During the past year, the Archives of Psychiatry received additions to a number of preexisting collections. The American Academy of Psychiatry and The Law sent us more of their papers. For the American Psychopathological Association Archives, Dr. Jonathan Cole presented us with an extensive group of papers from the period when he was secretary and then president. Dr. Hans Syz added to this collection and kindly allowed us to copy a variety of pertinent papers from the Lifwynn Foundation archives. Emily L. Martin continued her longstanding policy of giving us papers illustrating the mental hygiene movement. Ms. Martin has added correspondence from Frankwood E. Williams during the time he was Medical Director of the National Committee for Mental Hygiene. Also included is correspondence relating to some of Dr. Williams' broader activities such as: 1. His service as an editor of a special issue of the Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science in May 1930 on the "Social aspects of mental hygiene." 2. Further editorial efforts for the newly founded American Review

from 1923 to 1927. 3. His extensive involvement with the New School for Social Research from its founding in 1919. This includes his correspondence with Alvin Johnson, his activities as a member of the Board of Directors (1924-1931), and his many years as a teacher there from 1919 until his death in 1936. The year 1927-1928 was a banner one for courses on psychological matters which were clearly the most popular with the students. The leaders were Joseph Jastrow, Alfred Adler and Dr. Williams and others. This collection will undoubtedly assist some future scholar to do a proper study of Frankwood E. Williams.

Reference Library

The Reference Library is designed to provide the modern research tools needed to study the dynamics of various movements in the field of psychiatry. This library collects books on the history of psychiatry and related topics in philosophy, medicine, and culture. The building of this collection started in 1958, and the provision of space for a separate library coincided in time with the founding of the Friends. Additions to the collection in 1978 were made by the Department of Psychiatry, the Friends, the Cartmell Fund, and individuals. In all, a total of 98 items were added.

Membership Information

The enclosed card lists the various categories of membership available in the Friends of the Oskar Diethelm Historical Library. There are also opportunities for Corporate Friends of the Library (with a suggested membership donation of \$500 or more) and for the establishment of endowment funds which can serve as a perpetual memorial. We will be pleased to provide further information on request.

We also wish to thank the following for gifts of manuscripts and books made in 1978 to the different collections:

Dr. Kenneth E. Appel

Dr. & Mrs. Eric T. Carlson

Dr. Doris Holmquist

Dr. Barbara Fass Leavy

Dr. Avodah K. Offit

Dr. Jacques M. Quen

Dr. Harley Shands

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*Charter members of the Friends.

We are sorry to report that we lost our oldest Friend on 25 October 1978, when Dr. Olga Knopf died at the age of 90.

This report was prepared by Eric T. Carlson and Marilyn Kerr with the assistance of Oskar Diethelm, Mary Mylenki and Jacques M. Quen. The cover was designed by Marilyn Kerr.